

Approved at the August 26, 2008 meeting

Flathead County Solid Waste District
Board of Directors Meeting
July 22, 2008 – **5:00 p.m.**
Landfill Office

1. Roll Call

Board Members present: Hank Olson, Chairman; Bill Shaw, Vice Chair; Nancy Askew, Board of Health; Greg Acton, City of Whitefish and Dale Lauman, County Commissioner. Absent: John Helton, Member at Large and Alan Ruby, Member at Large.

District Staff present: Public Works Director Dave Prunty, Operations Manager Jim Chilton, and Recording Secretary Carol Norwood.

Attendees: Matt O'Connell, Robert Morrow and Mayre Flowers.

2. Introductory Remarks from Chairman

Hank Olson thanked everyone for attending and noted the Board members that were absent.

3. Comments from public

4. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes for June 24, 2008 - **Action Required**

Bill Shaw moved to adopt the minutes for June 24, 2008. Nancy Askew seconded. Motion passed.

5. Action Agenda

There are no items on the action agenda this month.

6. Director's Report

a. Container Site Consolidation Program for Marion and Kila

The public hearing for the proposed consolidation proposal has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 19th starting at 6 p.m. at the second floor conference room at the Earl Bennett Building in Kalispell. Staff will provide a short presentation on the proposed location on Ashley Lake Road and have some exhibits of the conceptual site layout. The meeting will be advertised in the Daily Interlake as required and staff will place notices at the Post Offices in Kila and Marion.

The DNRC staff have committed to the extent that they can on this project. The Montana Board of Land Commissioners will make the decision based upon the information gathered

during their public process and environmental findings (MEPA – Montana Environmental Protection Act).

Dave distributed a letter from Rails to Trails supporting the proposed Ashley Lake site. Dave outlined his presentation for the public hearing and he and Jim discussed exhibits they plan to have for display. Dave stated that the Board could make a motion to proceed at the August meeting. Hank asked if the Board could meet 30 minutes prior to the public hearing to prepare for the meeting. The Board felt this was a good idea.

Dave mentioned “The Proposed Solid Waste Corridor for Western Flathead County” was suggested as the “tag” for the new site.

b. Container Site Scavenging

The County Attorney’s Office has continued to research the laws regarding the scavenging of materials from container sites. Jonathan Smith is recommending that the criminal offense in the resolution would be for trespassing.

Dave stated Jonathan recommends holding a public meeting before any action is taken. He mentioned recurring problems at the Bigfork site. Jim stated they had removed the squatter from the Bigfork site today.

Nancy asked if the engineers could provide any examples of existing laws in California.

Discussion was held regarding trespassing vs. theft and updating signage. The Board felt removal of material the District relies on for revenue was theft.

c. Sunday Tonnage Received at Flathead County Landfill

Staff has included a report that shows the amount of waste delivered to the landfill on Sundays since January, 2007. As expected the volume typically follows normal trend for higher amounts in summer as compared to winter months. The majority of waste is being hauled by our refuse trucks from the container sites around the valley. There are a few commercial routes from other private local waste haulers. The remaining waste is being transported to the landfill by citizens or private businesses.

A spreadsheet detailing the estimated refuse hauled by our trucks from each container site for calendar year 2007 and year-to-date 2008 is included in the board packet.

Discussion was held regarding closing the landfill on Sundays once the container sites can be controlled. Dave addressed the cost savings if the District could close on holidays. He stated it would be an educational process with the public to reduce littering when the sites are closed.

Nancy suggested seasonally closing on Sundays from October to May and on legal holidays.

Hank asked Dave to provide the Board with employee costs for the holidays and also the costs of cleaning up the sites the day after the closure.

The Board discussed the tonnages by site, the costs of maintaining the small volume sites and possible consolidations. Discussion was held regarding requiring new developments to have private trash removal and who enforces it.

d. City of Kalispell Recycling

Valley Recycling has provided costs to provide recycling services to the three school sites in Kalispell. Glacier High School would cost \$70 per bin pull, and both Flathead High School and Kalispell Junior High would be \$45 per pull. The box rent would be \$55/month at Flathead High and the Junior High. Processing costs would be \$65/ton. The processing and box rent costs are equal to our costs at our other sites. If Evergreen Disposal provided maintenance at the schools, the cost would be \$375/month. We hope to utilize the students and maintenance personnel at the school to provide this service.

In discussions with Jonathan Smith of the County Attorney's Office, he believes that we could proceed forward with adding the additional sites in Kalispell by simple amendment to our existing contract with Evergreen Disposal. This would include all sites within Kalispell and Whitefish if needed.

Bill asked if the sites would be used by individuals not associated with the schools. Dave said the sites would be open to the public.

Hank stated that the City of Kalispell purchased 4 recycling bins but did not have the revenue to pay the additional pick up and processing costs. He stated that residents of Whitefish and Kalispell pay the same annual refuse fee as other county residents that have recycling provided at the container sites. Hank said that Valley Recycling donated the cost of the school bins for June.

Dale supported the program as it will reduce the garbage going into the landfill.

Nancy questioned the difference in cost between the two high schools. Dave stated that Flathead High School is located further from Valley Recycling than Glacier High School which results in a higher hauling cost.

Hank asked for comments from Valley Recycling representatives, Bob Morrow and Matt O'Connell.

Matt stated that the graphs included in the packets which show the increasing recycling tonnage speaks for the success of recycling.

Dave recommended getting the bins located at the Kalispell schools operational by the time school starts. He told the Board he would have a motion for them next month amending the current contract to include the schools and asked what, if any, additional sites the

Board would like included. The Board agreed that six sites would be included in the motion: Tidyman's, Albertsons, Tire Rama, FHS, GHS and Kalispell Middle School.

Bill Shaw left at 5:50 PM.

e. Landfill Gas to Energy Project

Negotiations have been ongoing between the District and the Flathead Electric Cooperative to reach agreement on a Landfill Gas Utilization Agreement. There has been one successful negotiating session so far. FEC draft the initial document as the starting point. Staff has worked with our engineer, Mike Cullinane, to prepare the responses after a two hour conference call discussing the initial draft with FEC.

Jonathan Smith reviewed the draft contract. We have also talked with Mr. Eric J. Sapir with the law firm of Hawkins, Delafield and Wood, LLP in Newark, NJ. Mr. Sapir is a partner with the firm and has specialized in representing municipalities in contract arrangements like we are currently involved in. Mike Cullinane worked with Mr. Sapir in a landfill gas agreement for Mike's client in Hawaii. Jonathan said he would very much agree with using Mr. Sapir to assure the District is secure and protected in this agreement. A short biography is included in your packet for Mr. Sapir.

Dave stated he would like to have the contract ready for the Board to sign at the August meeting.

f. WasteNot Project Year End Report

Mayre Flowers was at the meeting to update the Board regarding the activities of the WasteNot Project for the past fiscal year.

Mayre distributed A WasteNot Project Executive Summary and reviewed the items with the Board. She stated that she would probably request additional staff funding next year. She asked the Board to consider amending the current policy of "homeowner only" usage to include allowing the schools to use the recycling bins at the container sites and asked for direction from the Board regarding the Pharmaceutical Take-Back Program.

g. Refuse Operations

Operations proceeded well for the month. Tonnage/Volumes are shown below:

	<u>June</u>
Total MSW to landfill	10,954.55
Total Appliances Collected	861
Junk Vehicles Collected	11
Truck Trips to Landfill	555
Refuse tons/trip	7.74

The District landfilled 11.2% less waste in June, 2008 as compared to June, 2007 and our refuse trucks hauled 2.6% less waste comparing the same time frame.

Dave stated that he participates in a phone survey of landfills and their data shows that Flathead County is not alone in tonnage decrease.

7. Comments from Board Members

There were no comments.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.